

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EB-03 NSC-07 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8344

S E C R E T MADRID 1556

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SP, ENRG

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER'S REQUEST FOR ENERGY CONFERENCE INFORMATION

REF: (A) MADRID 1522 (B) MADRID 890 (C) STATE 32407

1. IN ADDITION QUERY REPORTED REF A FOREIGN MINISTER CORTINA SAID SECRETARY KISSINGER DURING HIS SHORT VISIT HERE HAD PROMISED HIM THAT HE WOULD KEEP HIM INFORMED ON DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING WASHINGTON OIL CONFERENCE OF FEBRUARY 11 BUT HE HAS RECEIVED NO WORD FROM HIM NOR HAS HE THROUGH AMBASSADOR SAGAZ. HE ASKED THAT I INFORM SECRETARY AND REQUEST SUCH INFORMATION BE PASSED TO HIM.

2. MINISTER'S COMPLAINT ON THIS SCORE HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN PASSED TO ME BY UNDERSECRETARY ROVIRA WHEN I MET WITH HIM ON FEBRUARY 6 ON SUBJECT OF VARIABLE LEVY AND WAS PASSED ON TO DEPARTMENT BY REF B, FOLLOWING THIS, DIRGEN NORTH AMERICAN/FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS (PERINAT), WHO ALSO HAD CONVEYED FOREIGN MINISTER'S COMPLAINT TO EMBOFF, WAS FURNISHED INFORMATION CONTAINED REF C.

3. OBVIOUS CORTINA CONSIDERS SUCH INFO INADEQUATE AND WOULD LIKE TO BE BROUGHT UP TO DATE. BELIEVE WORTHWHILE THAT DEPARTMENT PREPARE SUMMARY OF 11 FEBRUARY CONFERENCE DISCUSSIONS INCLUDING CONCLUSIONS, PROBLEMS AND ARGUMENTS AND SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENTS

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SINCE THEN AND FORESEEN FOR THE NEAR FUTURE. I ALSO SUGGEST WE

BE AUTHORIZED TO CONVEY SUBSTANCE OF STATE 037858 TO GOS.
MERELY FURNISHING A COPY OF THE CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUE
WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE.

4. SO FAR IN OUR EFFORTS TO SATISFY THE SECRETARY'S UNDERTAKING
TO TRY TO PROVIDE GOS BENEFIT OF US THINKING ON ENERGY CONFERENCE,
WE BRIEFED DIRECTOR GENERAL INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (CERON)
ORALLY ON FEB 9 ON USG IDEAS ON AGENDA USING STATE 19381.
SUBSEQUENTLY WE PROVIDED TEXT OF SECRETARY'S PRESENTATION (STATE
28120) AND PRESS CONFERENCE, CONFERENCE'S COMMUNIQUE AND STATEMENTS
OF SECRETARY SCHULTZ, CHAIRMAN RAY, AND THAT OF PRESIDENT NIXON
AT CONCLUSION OF ENERGY CONFERENCE. BUT IN DRAWING HEAVILY ON WHAT
IS SUBSTANTIALLY PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE, THESE BRIEFINGS HAVE LACKED
PERSONAL TOUCH AND SENSE OF SHARED CONFIDENCE IMPLICIT IN INSIDE
INFORMATION THAT FOREIGN MINISTER APPEARS TO EXPECT.

5. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT AS WE CONTINUE TO ATTEMPT TO BRING ORDER
IN OUR RELATIONS BETWEEN OIL PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS WE CANNOT AFFORD
TO SPURN AT LEAST LIMITED COOPERATION BY SPAIN, WHOSE RANKING AMONG
MAJOR OIL CONSUMERS HAS NOT BEEN FULLY RECOGNIZED. IT IS QUITE CLEAR
THE SPANISH WERE DISAPPOINTED AT NOT BEING INCLUDED IN CONFERENCE,
PARTICULARLY BY THE KNOWLEDGE THAT INVITATION GIVEN NORWAY, ALSO
NON-EEC COUNTRY BUT WITH LOWER OIL CONSUMPTION. THOUGH
DISAPPOINTED, SPANISH ARE STILL SINCERE IN THEIR EXPRESSIONS OF
WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE. IT WOULD BE TO OUR ADVANTAGE TO
MAKE THEM FEEL PART OF THE TEAM EVEN IF NOT ON FIRST STRING,
THIS WE CAN DO AT NO GREAT COST BY APPEALING TO THEIR PRIDE THROUGH
A MORE PERSONAL AND CONTINUED SHARING OF INFORMATION ON ENERGY
CONFERENCE AND AFTERMATH.
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